

# **Vital Statistics Report Lancaster County, Nebraska 2003**

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# INTRODUCTION

This is the twenty-sixth annual Lancaster County Vital Statistics Report published by the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department (LLCHD). This report contains vital statistics data for the 2003 calendar year. In addition to birth and death statistics, this report contains 2003 marriage and divorce data for Lancaster County. Information contained in this report is based on the vital records of the State of Nebraska, which were sent to LLCHD by the Data Management Section, Nebraska Health and Human Services System.

Historical data, Year 2010 Objectives, and data for Nebraska have been used where relevant to show trends and comparisons. Birth and mortality rates are calculated using population estimates from the U.S. Census. The 2003 population estimate of Lancaster County was set at 261,057 by 2003 U.S. Census Data.

Data provided by the Nebraska Birth Defects Registry were used to examine trends of congenital anomalies and their distribution by age and race of the mother. Since 1999 the death certificate has used a revised cause of death classification. This new classification is the tenth revision of International Classification of Disease (ICD-10), which replaced ICD-9. The ICD-9 was in use during 1979-1998.

Age adjusted rates are used to examine the difference in death rates from year to year. Adjusted rates are also utilized to compare county deaths with those of the State.

This report is divided into three sections: 1) Birth Statistics, 2) Death Statistics, and 3) Marriage and Divorce Statistics. Some of the many possible statistics are discussed in narrative, in tables and figures. However, for those interested in the overall data summary tables for birth (Table 13, Table 13A) and deaths (Table 35) are provided.

## Birth Statistics

This section presents year 2003 birth data for Lancaster County, Nebraska, according to a wide variety of characteristics. Presented data are for demographic characteristics (age, live birth order, race, Hispanic origin, marital status, and educational attainment); maternal characteristics (medical risk factors, weight gain, tobacco and alcohol use); medical care utilization by pregnant women (prenatal care, obstetric procedures, complication of labor or delivery, attendant at birth, and method of delivery); and infant characteristics (period of gestation, birth weight, APGAR score, abnormal conditions, and multiple births). Birth and fertility rates are also presented by age, live birth order, race, Hispanic origin and marital status. Trends in birth, fertility, maternal and infant characteristics are described and interpreted. In addition, birth defects found among the infants are also discussed.

This section covers descriptive tabulation of data reported on birth certificates of the 4043 births that occurred in Lancaster County in 2003.

## **Death Statistics**

This section presents year 2003 death certificate data of Lancaster County, Nebraska. Based on the characteristics of the deceased. It discusses the leading causes of death, infant mortality, and fetal deaths. Also presented in this section are data reported on unintentional injury death, disposition and place of death, trends in death (gender specific), infant mortality rate, and fetal death rate.

This section provides descriptive tabulations of age-adjusted rates (for comparison) of data reported on death certificates of the 1,718 deaths that occurred in Lancaster County in 2003.

## **Marriage and Divorce Statistics**

The marriage and divorce section provides a descriptive summary of the 1,947 marriages and 917 divorces that took place in Lancaster County in 2003. Marriages and divorces are described according to age, race and education. A profile of children of the divorcees is also presented.

## **Highlights**

- i The infant mortality rate for non-White children was 9.3 deaths per 1,000 live births compared to 5.3 White deaths per 1,000 live births.
- i Both the number and rate of low-birth weight babies increased when compared to last year.
- i Cancer continues to be the number one cause of death. (In 1999, for the first time, cancer was the leading cause of death.)
- i An increasing number of women are having children at older ages.
- i There has been a steady and dramatic increase in non-marital births since 1978. The rates have increased from 98 per 1,000 to 262 per 1,000 women in 2003. Non-marital births for mothers under the age of 20 were the highest among Black and American-Indian mothers at 96.7% and 85.7%. Non-marital births for mothers under the age of 20 in Hispanics and Whites were 86.4% and 80.6% respectively. Asians had the rate of non-marital births for mothers under the age of 20 at 83.3%.
- i Infants born with low birth weight had a higher chance of having birth defects (8.6%) than infants born with normal birth weight (3.2%).

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Appreciation is expressed to the Nebraska Health and Human Services System, Section of Data Management for providing the data upon which this report is based.

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This report is available on our Website (Please Click the Link Below).  
<http://www.lincoln.ne.gov> and enter the key word 'Data'.

# **BIRTH STATISTICS**

## BIRTH RATE

In 2003, the crude birth rate for Lancaster County was 15.5 per 1,000 population. The 2003 crude birth rate for Nebraska was 14.9 per 1,000 population.

Figure 1 illustrates the birth rate trends for Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska from 1980 to 2002.

## FERTILITY RATE

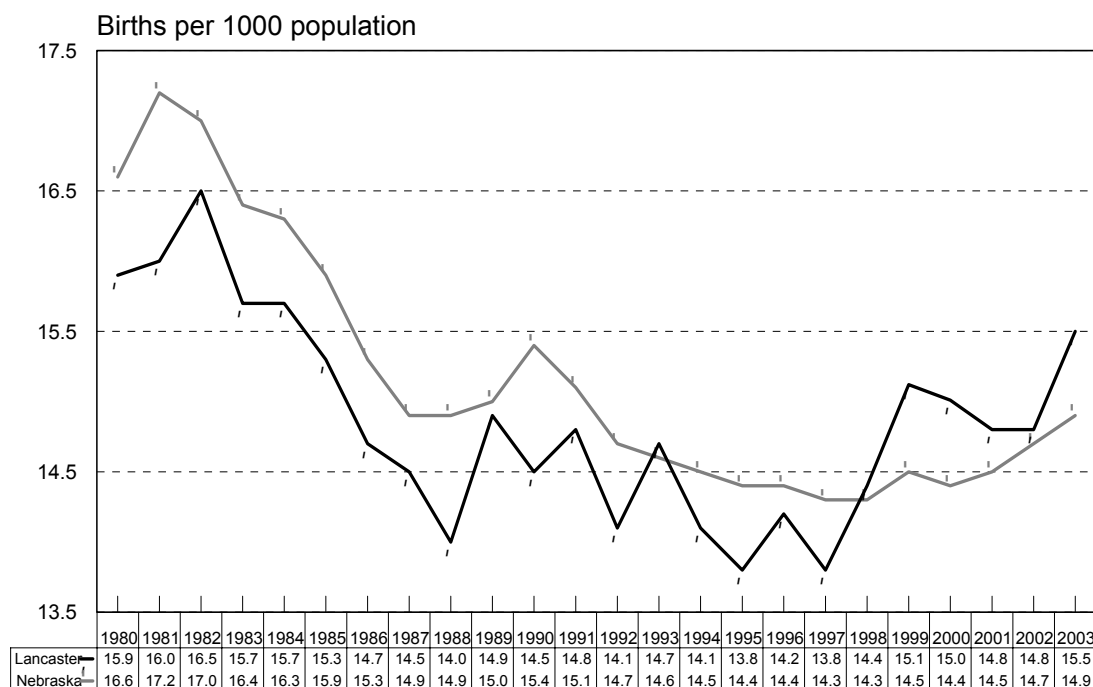
The Lancaster County fertility rate (births per 1,000 women age 15 to 44) for 2003 was 65.7 (See Figure 2). This is the highest in more than twenty years. The rate last year was 62.6. The rates for 1999 to 2003 are well above the average rate for last twenty years.

## TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS

A total of 4,043 live births were recorded among Lancaster County women in 2003. This number is consistent with the gradual increase in annual births that has occurred since 1988, when there were 2,968 births.

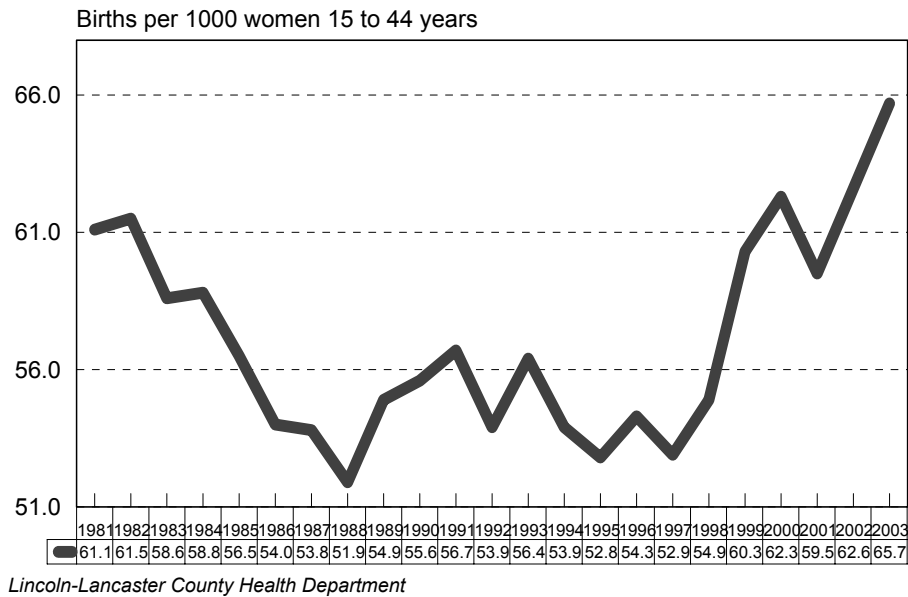
In Lancaster County, Lincoln residents represented 93.8 percent of all live births, with 6.2 percent distributed among Lancaster County residents outside the Lincoln city limits. The most frequent month of birth was July, followed by October and September (Table 1). The fewest births were in December.

**Figure 1: Birth Rates**  
Lancaster County and Nebraska  
1980 to 2003



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**Figure 2: Fertility Rate**  
Lancaster County, NE  
1981-2003



## SEX OF CHILD

The number of male births continues to surpass the number of female births (except for 1987 and 1998). Of the 4,043 total live births, 2,060, or 51 percent, were males and 1,983, or 49 percent were females.

minority race or Latino ethnicity have increased from 9.4 percent in 1991 to 16.8 percent in 2003.

## RACE/ETHNIC ORIGIN

In 2003, 89.3 percent of all births were White, 3.4 percent were Black, 1.4 percent were American Indian and 5.3 percent were Asian. Latinos represented 6.2 percent of all births (Table 2).

Over the past decade, the percentage of all Lancaster County births that are of

**TABLE 1.**  
**Births By Month**  
**Lancaster County, 2003**

Month	Frequency	Percent
January	309	7.6
February	292	7.2
March	338	8.4
April	345	8.5
May	350	8.7
June	362	9
July	372	9.2
August	343	8.5
September	368	9.1
October	371	9.2
November	305	7.5
December	288	7.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4043</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**TABLE 2.**  
Births by Race and Ethnic Origin  
Lancaster County, 2003

Race	Frequency	Percent
White	3611	89.3
Black	136	3.4
American Indian	55	1.4
Asian	218	5.3
Unknown/Other	23	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>4043</b>	<b>100</b>
Latino**	251	6.2

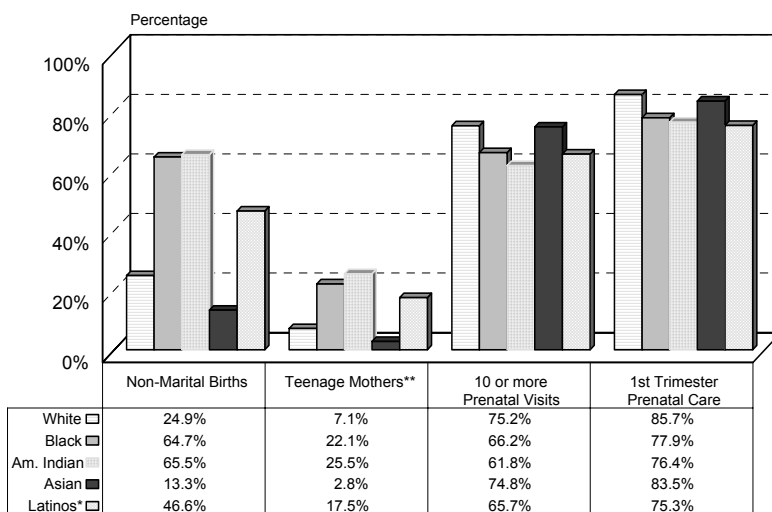
\*Race of the Child is determined by the race of the mother

\*\*Latinos may be of any group

The national and the State of Nebraska birth statistics identify the race of birthed children solely upon the race of the mother. For comparison purposes, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department also defines the race of the child by the race of the mother for purposes of birth statistics. In our report, Hispanic (Latino) origin is considered ethnicity (not race), which is consistent with current statistical practices throughout the nation. This distinction also allows for better comparison with state and national data.

Figure 3 illustrates non-marital and teenage birth statistics by race of mother. The graph also illustrates variation by race in the percentage of women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester and those who had ten or more prenatal visits during a pregnancy. Each of these issues will be discussed under their respective subject headings.

Figure 3: Comparison of Birth Statistics by Race and Ethnic Origin  
Lancaster County, NE 2003



\*Latinos may be of any race

\*\*Under 20 years of age.

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**Table 3.**  
**Comparison of Resident Birth Statistics**  
**by Race and Ethnic Origin**  
**Lancaster County, 2003**

	WHITE	BLACK	AM. INDIAN	ASIAN	OTHER	TOTAL	*Latino
<b>Number of live Births</b>							
Male	1844	74	27	105	10	2060	127
Female	1767	62	28	113	13	1983	124
Total	3611	136	55	218	23	4043	251
<b>Percent of total Live Births</b>	<b>89.3</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Birth Weight:</b>							
Mean Birth Weight (lb/oz)	7/6	6/13	7/7	7/4	7/5	7/5	7/5
Percent of Low Birth wt.	7.6	12.5	5.5	2.8	0	7.4	5.6
Prenatal Care 10 or More Prenatal Visits(%)	75.2	66.2	61.8	74.8	65.2	85.2	65.7
Receiving care in 1st Trimester	85.7	77.9	76.4	83.5	85.2	74.7	75.3
<b>Age of Mother</b>							
Percent of Mother's Age							
Under 20	7.1%	22.1%	25.5%	2.8%	4.3%	7.6%	17.5%
20-24	23.5%	27.9%	25.5%	15.1%	26.1%	23.3%	32.7%
25-29	32.5%	28.7%	25.5%	32.1%	34.8%	32.3%	28.7%
30 & Over	36.8%	21.3%	23.6%	50.0%	34.8%	36.8%	21.1%
<b>Non Marital Births:</b>							
Number	898	88	36	2	10	1061	117
(%) Non-Marital Births	24.9%	64.7%	65.5%	13.3%	43.5%	26.2%	46.6%
Over all share of Non-Marital Births(%)	91.0%	1.6%	.6%	6.3%	0.4%	100	11.0%

Note: Statistics are based on the race of the mother. \*Latinos may be of any Race \*\*Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding  
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**Table 4.**  
**Births by Weight of Child**  
**Lancaster County, 2003**

Weight of Child	Frequency	Percent
1lb & under	4	0.1
1lb.1oz-2lb	11	0.3
2lb.1oz-3lb.8oz	45	1.1
3lb.9oz- 4lb.8oz	69	1.7
4lb.9oz- 5lb.8oz	171	4.2
5lb.9oz-5lb.15oz	179	4.4
6lb- 6lb.15oz	927	22.9
7lb-7lb.15oz	1382	34.2
8lb-8lb.15oz	952	23.5
9lb-9lb.15oz	242	6
10lb-10lb-15oz	51	1.3
11lbs & over	10	0.2
Total Births	4043	100.00

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## BIRTH WEIGHT

In 2003, the mean birth weight was 7 lbs. 5 oz. The mean birth weight has remained fairly stable for the past 15 years. Table 4 lists the frequency of births by weight of child. Over 80 percent of all children weighed between 6 lbs. and 8 lbs. 15 oz at birth.

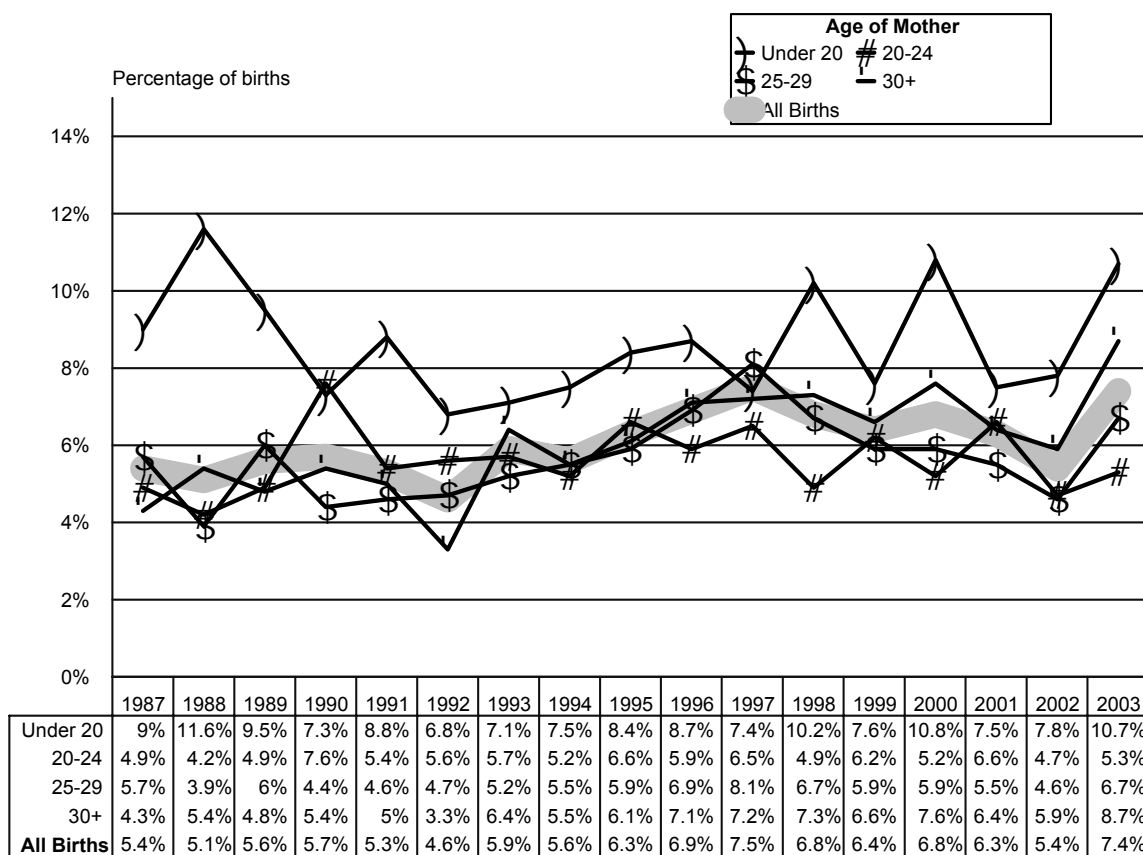
## BIRTH WEIGHT BY RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN OF CHILD

The mean birth weight for Whites was 7 lbs. 6 oz. This compares to 6 lbs. 13oz. for Blacks, 7 lbs. 7 oz. for American Indians, 7 lbs.4 oz. for Asians and 7 lbs. 5oz. for Latinos.

## LOW BIRTH WEIGHT (LBW)

There were 300 low birth weight babies (5 lbs. 8 oz. or less) born in 2003, accounting for 7.4 percent of all live births ( See Figure 4). The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2010 is to reduce the proportion of low-weight births in our community to 5.0 percent of all live births.

Figure 4: Low-Weight Births by Age Of Mother  
Lancaster County, NE  
1987-2003



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## MARITAL STATUS

Among married women, 7.1 percent (212/2982) had low birth weight babies, compared to 8.3 percent (88/973) among unmarried women. (Table 5).

**Table 5.**  
Low-Weight Births by Marital Status  
Lancaster County, 2003

Weight of the Child	MARRIED		UNMARRIED	
	Frequency	Percent	Frequency	Percent
Low Birth Weight (5 lbs 8 oz and under)	212	7.1	88	8.3
Normal Birth Weight (Over 5 lb 8 oz)	2770	92.9	973	91.7
<b>Total:</b>	<b>2982</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>1061</b>	<b>100.0</b>

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## AGE OF MOTHER

In 2003, teenage mothers were more likely to have a low birth weight baby (10.7 %) compared to other age groups (7.4 %) (Table 6 and Figure 4).

**Table 6.**  
Low-Weight Births by Age of Mother  
Lancaster County, 2003

Age of Mother	Total Live Births	Low Weight Births	%of Low Weight by Age Groups**	% of Age Group Low weight***
Under 20	309	33	11	10.7
20-24	941	50	16.7	5.3
25-29	1305	88	29.3	6.7
30 & Over	1488	129	43	8.7
Total	4043	300	100	7.4

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\*\*Percentages in this Column reflect low-weight births by age-group

\*\*\* Percentages in this column reflect the births within the age group that were low-weight.

## RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN OF LOW-WEIGHT BIRTHS

In 2003, low birth weight births comprised 7.6 percent of White births, 12.5 percent of Black births, 5.5 percent of American Indian births, 2.8 percent of Asian births and 5.6 percent of Latino births. These numbers show an increase in low birth weight from the previous year (2002) for all races except American Indian and Asian. From 1989 to 2002, the number of low birth weight babies increased from 5.0 percent to 7.4 percent and stands at 7.4 percent in 2003 for White infants, and decreased from 15.4 percent to 12.5 percent during 1989 to 2003 for Black infants.

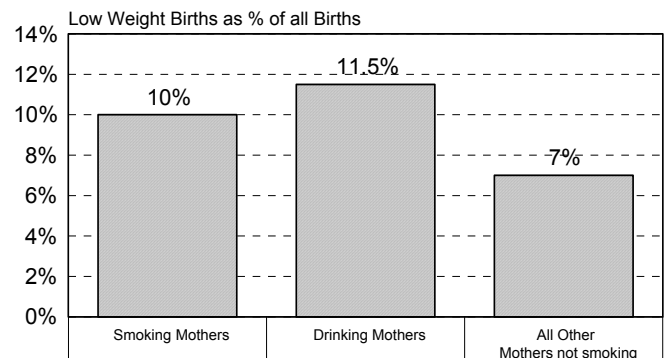
## ALCOHOL USE

In 2003, 52 (1.3 %) Lancaster County births were to mothers who reported the consumption of alcohol at least once during pregnancy (Figure 5). This shows a slight decrease in alcohol consumption from 2001 (1.5 %). Mothers who consumed alcohol during pregnancy reported a median of 2.0 drinks per week. Among mothers who consumed alcohol during pregnancy, 11.5 percent of births were of low weight.

## TOBACCO USE

In 2003, 528 (13.0%) Lancaster County births were to mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy, indicating a slight decrease from the 13.9 percent

Figure 5: Low-Weight Births  
By Smoking and Drinking Status  
Lancaster County, NE, 2003



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reported in 2002 (Figure 5). Among mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy in 2002, a mean of 8.9 with a median of 10.0 cigarettes were smoked per day. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2010 is to decrease the percentage of women who smoke during pregnancy to 2.0 percent. Among mothers who reported smoking during pregnancy, 10.0 percent of births were of low weight (Figure 5), compared to 7.0 percent for mothers who reported not smoking.

## ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO USE

Twenty seven mothers (0.7%) reported using both alcohol and tobacco during pregnancy. In this group, three births were of low weight.

# BIRTH DEFECTS

## (Congenital Anomalies)

According to the 2003 Nebraska Birth Defects Registry, there were 145 live births with birth defects in Lancaster County (4.4 % of all births). Among these births, the number of defects was 177. Anomalies of the heart (36) were the most common type of defect reported, followed by defects of the genital organs (27), musculoskeletal system (26) and circulatory system (13), (Table 9).

Males represented 61.4 percent (89) of children born with birth defects, and females represented 38.3 percent (56).

Of the 300 infants born with low birth weight in 2003, 8.6 percent (26) had birth defects. Among babies who were not of low birth weight, 3.2 percent (119) had birth defects.

## RACE OF CHILD

Among all live births with defects, 93.8 percent were White, 2.0 percent Black and 4.1 percent were Asian. Of all Black births in 2003, 2.2 percent had birth defects. This compares to 3.8 percent among Whites, and 2.8 percent among Asians. (Table 7).

**Table 7.**  
Birth Defects by Race  
Lancaster County, 2003

Race	Total Births	No. Births with Defects	Percentage of Race Group
White	3611	136	3.8
Black	136	3	2.2
Am. Indian	55	0	0
Asian	218	6	2.8
Other	23	0	0
Total	4043	145	3.6

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**Table 8.**  
Birth Defects by Age of Mother  
Lancaster County, 2003

Age Group	Total Births	Frequency of Birth defects	Percentage of Birth Defects
10-14	4	0	0
15-19	305	9	3
20-24	941	33	3.5
25-29	1305	43	3.3
30-34	1025	44	4.3
35-39	377	11	2.9
40+	86	5	5.8
Total	4043	145	3.6

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## AGE OF MOTHER

Birth defects affected 4.3 percent of babies born to mothers 30-34 years old. This compares to 3.6 percent of babies born to mothers of all other ages (Table 8).

**TABLE 9.**  
**Birth Defects by Number and**  
**Rate Per 1000 Live Births**  
**Lancaster County, 2003**

Type of Defects	Number	Rate*
Anomalies of the Heart	36	8.9
Genital Organs	27	6.7
Musculoskeletal System	26	6.4
Circulatory System	13	3.2
Urinary System	13	3.2
Other Central Nervous System	7	1.7
Cleft Lip-Palate	7	1.7
Other Upper Alimentary	6	1.5
Digestive System	5	1.2
Anomalies of Skin, Hair and Nails	5	1.2
Unspecified	5	1.2
Respiratory System	4	1
Other Chromosome	4	1
Anencephalus	3	0.7
Hydrocephalus	3	0.7
Anomalies of Ear, Face and Neck	3	0.7
Abdominal Cavity	3	0.7
Club Foot	2	0.5
Metabolic Blood	2	0.5
Anomalies of the Eye	1	0.2
Down's Syndrome	1	0.2
Multiple Systems	1	0.2
Total	177	43.8

*Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department*

\*Rate per 1,000 live births.

# PRENATAL CARE

## TEN OR MORE PRENATAL VISITS

The percentage of mothers known to have had ten or more prenatal visits was 74.7 percent in 2003 (Figure 6). Through the mid-1980s, there were marked improvements in the percentage of women with ten or more prenatal visits. Since that time (except in 2000) the percentage has not improved and has actually declined. The frequency of prenatal visits is shown in Table 10.

**Table 10.**  
Number of Prenatal Visits  
Lancaster County, 2003

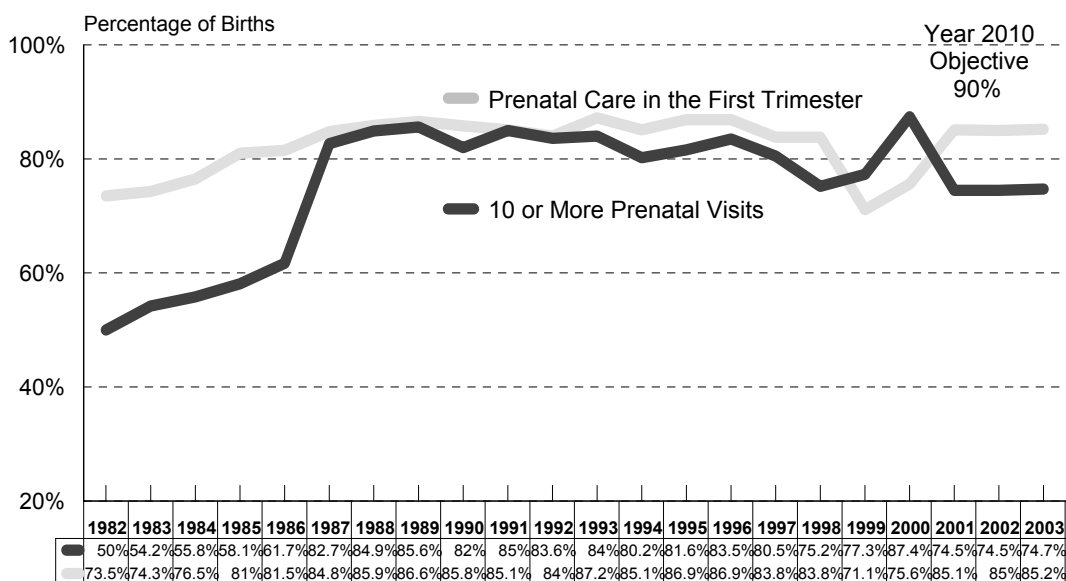
Number of Visits	Number of Births	Percentage of Total Births	Cumulative Percentage of Total Births.
Unknown	16	0.4	0.4
One	7	0.2	0.5
Two	17	0.4	1
Three	18	0.4	1.4
Four	42	1	2.4
Five	46	1.1	3.6
Six	102	2.5	6.1
Seven	149	3.7	9.8
Eight	289	7.1	16.9
Nine	339	8.4	25.3
Ten & over	3018	74.7	100
Total	4043	100	100

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

## CARE IN THE FIRST TRIMESTER

In 2003, 85.2 percent of Lancaster County mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy (Figure 6). The overall percentage of women receiving prenatal care in the first trimester has increased by 12.4 percent from

**Figure 6: Prenatal Care**  
Lancaster County, NE  
1982 to 2003

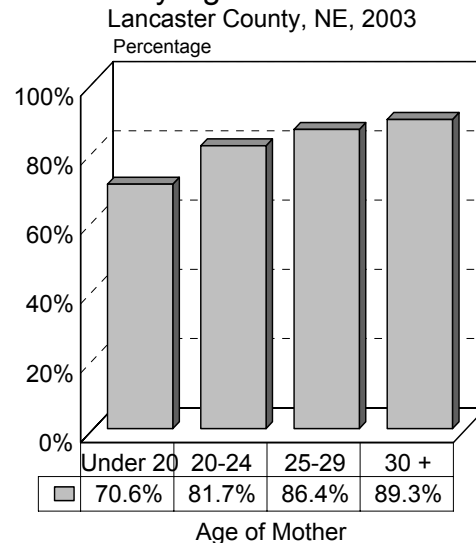


the year 2000 (75.6%), but remains almost 5 percentage points below the 90 percent goal in Year 2010 Health Objective for Nebraska and Lancaster County. The percentage of mothers receiving first trimester prenatal care has generally been highest among White mothers and lowest among Black and American Indian mothers. The prevalence of first trimester care has shown slight variation among mothers of different racial/ethnic group over the past eight year period (1996 to 2003). During this period, the percentage of mothers receiving first trimester care appeared to increase among American Indian mothers (67.3% in 1996 to 76.4% in 2003)

Over the same period an increase in those women receiving care in first trimester occurred among Black mothers (66 % in 1996 to 77.9% in 2003), whereas in White mothers it decreased slightly (88 % in 1996 to 85.7 % in 2003). Both Asian and Latino mothers showed no significant change over the time of record (1996-2003).

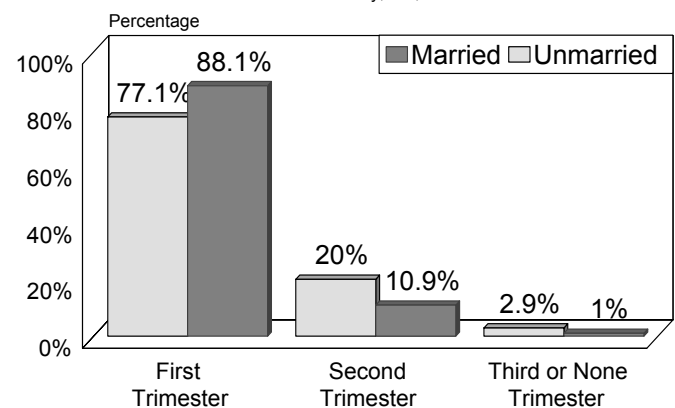
Older mothers (25 years and older) were more likely to receive care in the first trimester compared to younger mothers (Figure 7). Married mothers were more likely to receive care in the first trimester (88.1%) compared to unmarried mothers (77.1%) (Figure 8).

**Figure 7: Care in First Trimester  
By Age of Mother**



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**Figure 8: Trimester When Prenatal Care Began**  
Lancaster County, NE, 2003



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

**TABLE 11.**  
Mean Age of Mother by Birth Order and Marital Status  
Lancaster County, 2003

No. Births	MARRIED	UNMARRIED	MEAN AGE
First Born	27.3	21.2	25.3
Second Born	29.3	23.9	28.3
Third Born	30.8	26.3	29.8
Fourth Born	31.6	27.7	30.6
ALL BIRTHS	29.1	23.2	27.6

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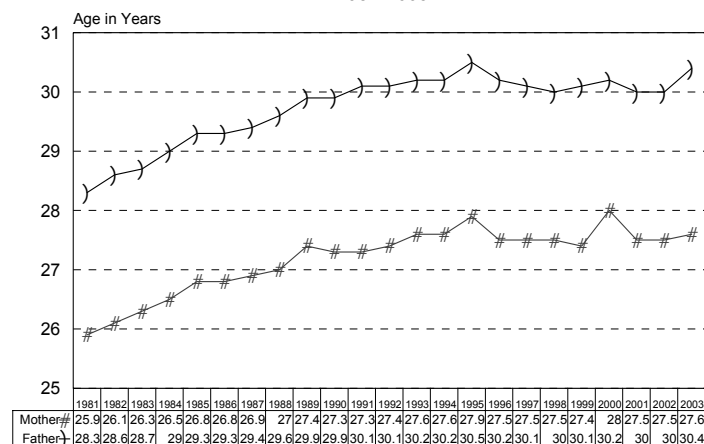
## PARENT DEMOGRAPHICS

The mean age of Lancaster County mothers was 27.6 years in 2003, which is consistent with the mean age seen during the 1990s (Figure 9). For births in which the age of both the mother and father is known, there is about a three year difference in age between mothers (27.5 years) and fathers (30.4 years). Lancaster County women 25 years and older have increased their share of the total number of births from 59.6 percent in 1981 to 64.5 percent in 2003 (Figure 11).

## RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN OF MOTHERS

In 2003, the mean age of mothers was 27.6 years for Whites, 24.9 years for Blacks, 25.1 years for Latinos, 24.4 years for American Indians, and 29.6 for Asians. The mean age of first time mothers was 25.3 years for Whites, 21.9 years for Blacks, 20.9 for American Indians, and 27.4 for Asians.

Figure 9: Mean Age of Mother and Father  
Lancaster County, NE  
1981-2003



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## MARITAL STATUS

The mean age of married mothers was 29.1 years, compared to 23.2 years for unmarried mothers. The mean age of unmarried mothers was younger than married mothers among all birth-order categories (Table 11).

## EDUCATION

The most common level of education completed by Lancaster County mothers and fathers was a high school education. The mean education level was 2 years of college for both mothers and fathers. For unmarried mothers, the mean education level was a high school education, versus 3 years of college for married mothers.

## TEENAGE MOTHERS

The birth rate among females 15 to 19 years of age in 2003 was 28.5 per 1,000 population. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2010 is to reduce the teenage birth rate to 20 per 1,000 population. Of all births in 2003, 7.6 percent were to mothers under 20, while only 2.1 percent were to fathers under 20 (Figure 10). Fathers of infants born to teen mothers were, on average, three years older (21.5 years) than the mother (18 years). The youngest teen mother was 13 years old in 2003.

## RACE AND ETHNIC ORIGIN OF TEEN MOTHERS

The percentage of births delivered by mothers under 20 years old has increased for most populations but has been highest among American Indian, Black and Hispanic populations. From 1987 to 2003, teen mothers increased from 21.3 percent to 22.1 percent of Black births, from 7.7 percent to 17.5 percent of Latino births and from 17.8 percent to 25.5 percent among American Indian births. During the same period, teen mothers decreased from 7.3 percent to 7.1 percent of White births and increased from 1.7 percent to 2.8 percent of Asian births.

## PRENATAL CARE

Among mothers less than 20 years of age, 70.6 percent received care in their first trimester of pregnancy (Figure 7). This compares to 86.4 percent for older mothers (20+ years old) and 85.2 percent for mothers of all ages.

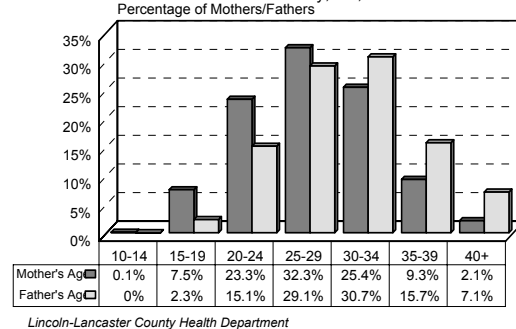
## NON-MARITAL BIRTHS

Overall, 26.2 percent of births (1061 of 4,043) were to unmarried mothers. This translates into a rate of 262 non-marital births per 1,000 live births in 2003 (Figure 12). The rate of non-marital births has been steadily increasing since 1978, when 98 of every 1,000 live births were to an unmarried mother.

Almost eight of every nine births (82.5 %)

to mothers under 20 years of age were non-marital in 2003 (Table 12). Among all mothers under the age of 20, 96.7 percent of Black births, 85.7 percent of American Indian births, 86.4 percent of Latino births, 80.6 percent of White births and 83.3 percent of Asian births were non-marital.

Figure 10: Births by Age of Mother and Father  
Lancaster County, NE, 2003



## APGAR SCORES

In 2003, the mean APGAR scores at 1 minute and 5 minutes after birth were 7.7 and 8.8 (highest possible score = 10), respectively. APGAR scores have remained stable for over a decade. Slight variation in APGAR scores can be seen among males and female babies and among different racial/ethnic groups (Figure 13).

## ATTENDANT AT BIRTH

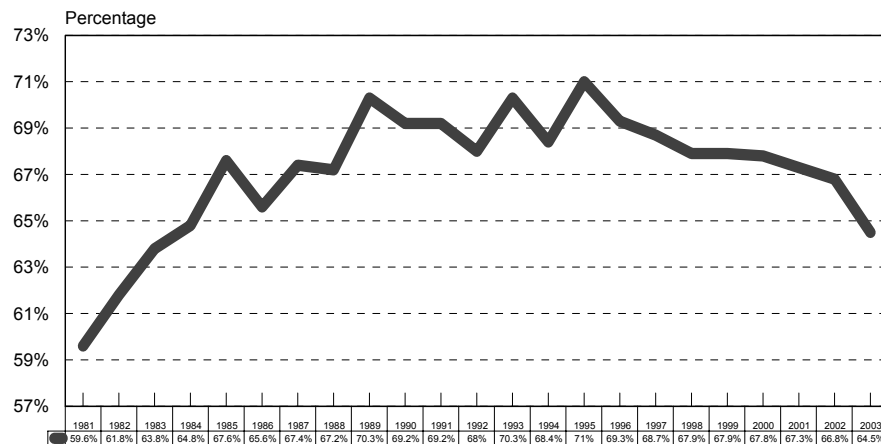
In recent years, a sharp increase has been noted in non-physician attended births. The number of non-physician attended births rose from 7 births in 1992 to 150 births in 1995 and the recent number is 381 births in 2003 (9.4% of all births). Of the non-physician attended births in 2003, 100 percent were hospital births. Mothers whose births were attended by Certified Nurse Midwives were

less likely to receive first trimester prenatal care (79.0%) than mothers in births attended by physicians (85.8%).

## MULTIPLE BIRTHS

The total number of multiple births in Lancaster County was 126/63 sets in 2003, including 9 set of triplets. The number of multiple births in 2002 was 143.

Figure 11: Percent of Births to Women Age 25 and Over  
Lancaster County, NE  
1981 to 2003



Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

**TABLE 12.**  
Non-Marital Births by Age of Mother  
Lancaster County, 2003

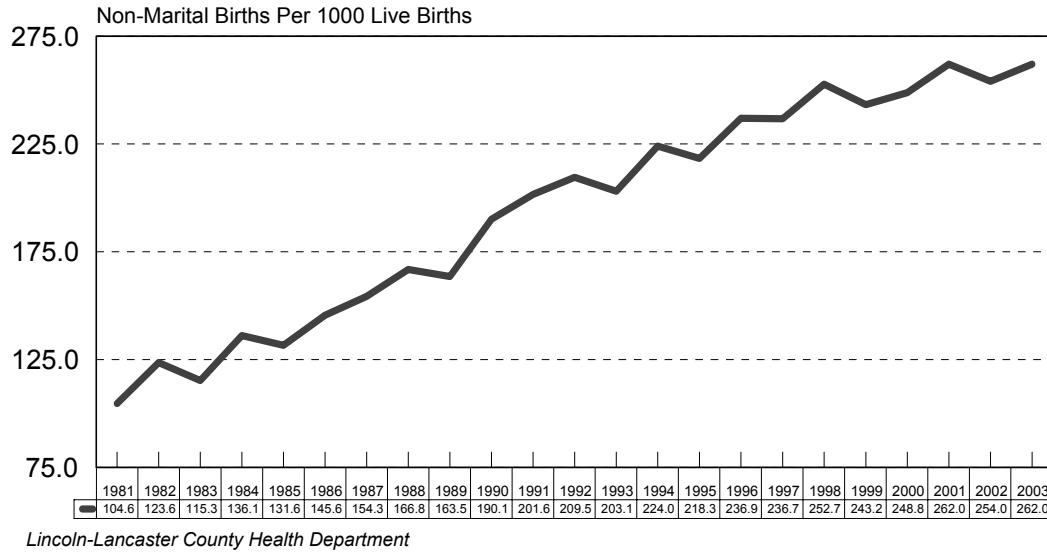
Age Group	Freq. Total Live Births	Freq. Non Marital Births	% of Non-Marital Age Group**	% of Age group Not Married***
Under 20	309	255	24	82.5
20 to 24	941	458	43.2	48.7
25 to 29	1305	222	20.9	17
30 and Above	1488	126	11.9	8.5
TOTAL	4043	1061	100	26.2

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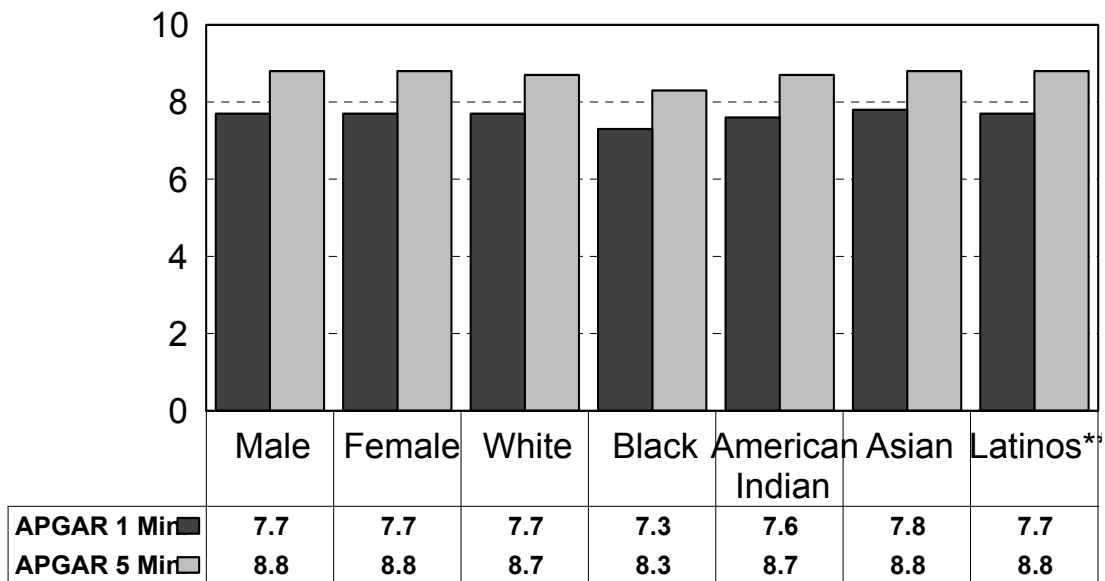
\*\*Percentages in this column reflect non-marital births by age group.

\*\*\*Percentages in this column reflect non-marital births within the respective age groups.

**Figure 12: Non-Marital Birth Rate**  
Lancaster County, NE  
1981 to 2003



**Figure 13: Mean APGAR Scores by Gender and Race\***  
Lancaster County, NE, 2003



\*Race of the child is determined by the race of the mother

\*\*Latinos may be of any race

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**TABLE 13.SUMMARY OF RESIDENT BIRTH STATISTICS FROM 1988 TO 2003, LANCASTER COUNTY, NE 2003**

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
NUMBER OF LIVE BIRTHS																
Lancaster County	2968	3174	3103	3198	3069	3245	3129	3166	3293	3223	3388	3594	3758	3708	3821	4043
Lincoln	2676	2907	2859	2970	2855	2985	2928	2964	3095	3017	3191	3394	3544	3465	3579	3793
Balance of County	292	267	244	228	214	260	201	202	198	206	197	194	214	243	242	250
SEX OF CHILD																
Male	50.2%	52.5%	51.2%	51.3%	51.4%	50.7%	52.0%	52.0%	50.8%	50.6%	49.4%	51.3%	51.0%	50.5%	50.7%	50.0%
Female	49.8%	47.5%	48.8%	48.7%	48.6%	49.3%	48.0%	48.0%	49.2%	49.4%	50.6%	48.7%	49.0%	49.5%	49.3%	49.0%
RACE OF CHILD																
White	90.3%	89.9%	92.0%	90.9%	89.7%	91.3%	91.9%	90.4%	90.4%	89.2%	91.3%	90.4%	90.0%	89.7%	89.9%	89.3%
Black	3.9%	3.9%	4.2%	4.6%	4.6%	3.1%	3.1%	3.6%	2.9%	3.6%	3.2%	3.3%	3.2%	3.6%	4%	3.4%
Am Indian	1.2%	1.0%	1.9%	1.3%	1.6%	1.2%	1.1%	1.5%	1.5%	1.8%	1.1%	1.5%	1.1%	1.2%	1.2%	1.4%
Asian	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	4.3%	3.9%	4.5%	5.2%	5.2%	4.3%	4.2%	5.2%	4.9%	4.5%	5.3%
Other	2.6%	2.5%	1.9%	3.2%	0.3%	0.1%	0.03%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%	0.03%	0.60%	0.5%	0.6%
Latino	2.1%	2.7%	2.7%*	2.7%*	4.0%*	2.9%*	3.1%*	3.6%*	3.8%*	4.0%*	4.8%*	4.6%	4.9%	5.7%	6.1%	6.2%
BIRTH WEIGHT																
Mean Birth Weight**	7.5	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.3	7.8	7.8	7.8	7.7	7.5	7.7	7.6	7.4	7.8	7.6	7.5
Low Weight Births																
Number	150	177	177	169	141	192	176	200	228	242	232	229	255	233	205	300
Percent of Total Live Births	5.10%	5.60%	5.70%	5.30%	4.60%	5.90%	5.60%	6.30%	6.90%	7.50%	6.80%	6.37%	6.80%	6.3%	5.4%	7.4%
BIRTH RATE																
Births per 1000 Population	14	14.9	14.9	14.8	14.1	14.7	14.1	13.8	14.2	13.8	14.4	15.12	15.01	14.7	14.8	15.5
FERTILITY RATE																
Births per 1000 Women 15-44	51.9	54.9	55.6	56.7	53.9	56.4	53.9	52.8	54.3	52.9	54.9	60.3	62.3	59.5	62.6	65.7
NON-MARITAL BIRTHS	495	519	590	645	643	659	701	691	780	763	856	874	859	970	969	1061
NON-MARTIAL BIRTH RATE	166.8	163.5	190.1	201.6	209.5	203.1	224	218.3	236.9	236.7	252.7	243.2	228.6	262	254	262

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\* Latinos may be of any race, (1990-1998 only).

\*\* Weight expressed in pounds and ounces.

NR: Not Reported

**TABLE 13** SUMMARY OF RESIDENT BIRTH STATISTICS FROM 1988 TO 2003, LANCASTER COUNTY, NE, 2003

	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Prenatal Care																
Percent with 10 or more Prenatal Visits	84.9%	85.6%	82.0%	85.0%	83.6%	84.0%	80.2%	81.6%	83.5%	79.8%	75.2%	77.29%	69.1%	74.5%	74.5%	74.7%
Percent Receiving Care in 1st Trimester	85.9%	86.6%	85.8%	85.1%	84.0%	87.2%	85.1%	86.9%	86.9%	83.8%	83.8%	71.09%	89.1%	85.1%	85%	85.2%
AGE OF PARENTS																
Percent of Mothers by Age																
Under 20	7.9%	7.1%	8.0%	8.2%	8.6%	7.4%	8.9%	7.5%	9.4%	9.6%	9.3%	9.54%	8.6%	8.7%	8.4%	7.6%
20-24	24.7%	22.6%	22.4%	22.6%	23.4%	22.3%	22.7%	21.5%	21.3%	21.6%	22.8%	22.54%	23.6%	24%	24.8%	23.3%
25-29	35.4%	36.0%	34.6%	34.4%	31.9%	31.8%	29.7%	32.1%	32.9%	32.7%	32.4%	31.94%	30.8%	30.5%	29.4%	32.3%
30-34	24.0%	24.7%	25.1%	24.9%	25.3%	27.9%	26.8%	26.1%	24.0%	22.9%	22.9%	23.70%	24.6%	25.4%	25%	25.4%
35-39	7.0%	8.4%	8.1%	8.8%	8.8%	9.3%	10.3%	10.8%	10.7%	11.3%	10.9%	10.50%	10.5%	9.1%	9.9%	9.3%
40 and Over	0.8%	1.2%	1.4%	1.2%	2.0%	1.3%	1.6%	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%	1.7%	1.80%	1.80%	2.2%	2.5%	2.1%
Mean Age of Mother:																
Married	27.9	28.3	28.5	28.5	28.7	28.9	29	29.2	29	29	29.1	29.9	29.1	29	29.1	29.1
Unmarried	22.4	22.7	22.5	22.8	22.5	22.6	22.7	23.2	22.7	22.8	22.6	24.4	22.7	22.7	23	23.2
Total	27	27.4	27.3	27.3	27.4	27.6	27.6	27.9	27.5	27.5	27.5	28.6	27.5	27.5	27.5	27.6
Mean Age of Father	29.6	29.9	29.9	30.1	30.1	30.2	30.2	30.5	30.2	30.1	30	30.1	30.2	30.1	30	30.4
MULTIPLE BIRTHS																
Number of Multiple Births	30	47	39	37	27	42	39	37	55	54	53	56	67	53	61	63
APGAR SCORES																
Mean 1 Minute APGAR Score	7.7	7.6	7.9	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.7	7.6	7.6	7.5	7.5	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.7	7.7
Mean 5 Minute APGAR Score	8.7	8.7	8.9	8.9	8.8	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.6	8.7	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.7	8.6	8.3
BIRTH DEFECTS (CONGENITAL ANOMALIES)																
Number	56	86	104	146	123	157	111	113	133	168	149	107	104	122	171	145
Percent of Total Live Births	1.9%	2.7%	3.4%	4.6%	4.0%	4.8%	3.5%	3.6%	4.0%	5.2%	4.4%	3.0%	2.7%	3.3%	4.4	3.6
EDUCATION LEVEL OF PARENTS																
Mean Years of Education of Father	13.9	14	14	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.2	14.1	14.1	14.1	14.2	13.9	13.8	13.8	13.9
Mean Years of Education of Mother	13.5	13.6	13.6	13.7	13.7	13.8	13.7	13.9	13.8	13.9	13.9	13.9	13.8	14	14.1	13.9
HOSPITAL/PHYSICIAN ATTENDED BIRTHS																
Number of Non-Hospital Births :	20	7	15	13	8	21	10	3	10	8	6	3	3	5	2	0
Percent of Total Live Births	0.7%	0.2%	0.5%	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1	0.07%	0.2%	0.1%	0
Non-Physician Attended Births:																
Number	9	6	10	13	7	48	80	150	223	207	264	318	333	359	401	381
Percent of Total Live Births	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	1.5%	2.6%	4.7%	6.8%	6.6%	7.8%	8.84%	8.9%	9.7%	10.5	9.4

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# DEATH STATISTICS

## CRUDE DEATH RATE

In 2003, the crude death rate for Lancaster County was 6.6 per 1,000 population. The age adjusted death rate for this year was 7.6 per 1,000 population. The average crude death rate between 1983 and 2003 was 6.9 per 1,000 population.

The crude death rate and age adjusted death rate for the State of Nebraska during 2003 was 8.9 and 8 per 1,000 population respectively. Figure 14 illustrates the death rates for Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska.

## TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS

There were 1,718 deaths among Lancaster County residents during 2003. Of these, 1,591 (92.6%) were residents of Lincoln. The remaining 127 (7.4 %) resided outside the City of Lincoln. The most frequent

months for death were December followed by May (Table 14).

### Race

Of the deaths in 2003, 1,666 (97 %) were among Whites, 34 were among Blacks, 7 were among American Indians and 11 were among Asians. Non-White deaths accounted for 3 percent of total deaths. The crude death rate was 6.9 per 1,000 for Whites, 4.3 per 1,000 for Blacks, 3.9 per 1,000 for American Indians and 1.2 per 1,000 for Asians.

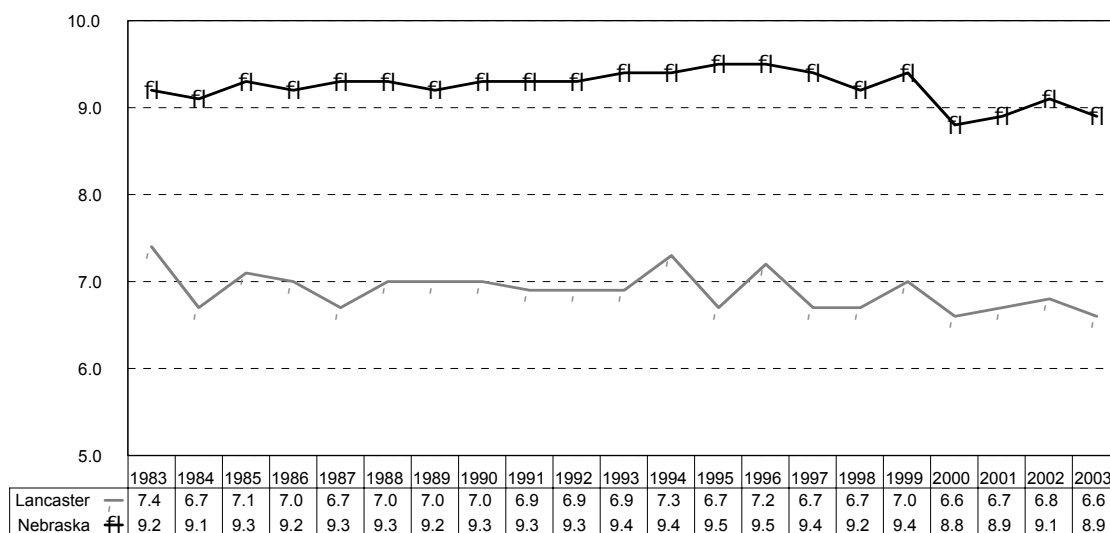
### Sex

During 2003, 46.3 percent of all deaths in Lancaster County were males, and 53.7 percent were females.

### Age

In 2003, 23 infants (less than 1 year of age) died, accounting for 1.3 percent of all deaths and an infant mortality rate of 5.9 per

**Figure 14: Comparison of Death Rates\***  
Lancaster County and Nebraska  
1983 to 2003



\*Rate per 1000 Population  
Lincoln-Lancaster Health Department

1,000 live births (*See page 31 for further discussion of infant mortality*). A total of 28 children in the 0-14 year age group died in 2003, accounting for 1.6 percent of all deaths. Table 15 lists the average age of death by sex selected causes. As shown in Table 16 the most frequent age group for deaths was 80 to 89 years (31.4 % of all deaths) followed by 70 to 79 years (22.3 % of all deaths).

In 2003, the mean age of death for males and females was 70.5 and 77.9 years, respectively (Figure 15). Although the mean age of death for men and women shows yearly fluctuations, females appear to have maintained a seven years greater longevity than males.

## LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

Cancer was the leading cause of death in 2003, as it also was in 2002. A total of 393

deaths were due to cancer and 389 were due to heart disease. These two major causes of death accounted for nearly half of all deaths (Figure 16). Table 17 details statistics on the leading causes of death in Lancaster County. A comparison of the six leading causes of death in Lancaster County and Nebraska are listed in Table 18.

### Leading Causes of Death by Age and Gender and Race

Among males, heart disease was the number one cause of death in 2003, followed by cancer and chronic lung disease (Table 19). For females the leading cause of death was cancer followed by heart disease and cerebrovascular diseases.

The leading causes of death among different racial groups are presented in Table 27. Cancer was the predominant cause of death among Whites followed by heart disease, cerebrovascular disease, chronic lung disease and unintentional injury. Among Blacks,

**TABLE 14**  
**Deaths by Month**  
**Lancaster County 2003**

Month	No. Deaths	Percent
January	161	9.4
February	142	8.3
March	139	8.1
April	158	9.2
May	164	9.5
June	127	7.4
July	140	8.1
August	112	6.5
September	122	7.1
October	134	7.8
November	139	8.1
December	180	10.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>1718</b>	<b>100</b>

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

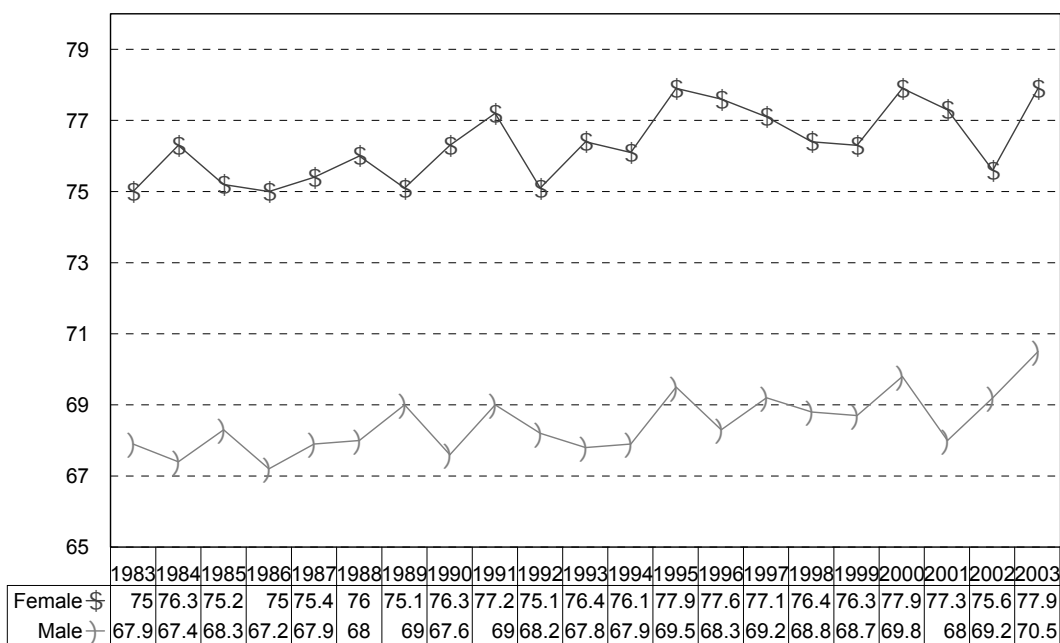
**TABLE 15.**  
**Average Age of Death**  
**by Sex by Selected Cause**  
**Lancaster County, 2003.**

Cause of Deaths	Male	Female
Heart Disease	75.7	79
Cancer	71.4	72
Cerebrovascular Disease	72.7	78.8
Accidental Deaths	48.7	56
Chronic Lung Disease	58	62.6
Diabetes Mellitus	70.4	75.3
Suicide	36.6	38

Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

heart disease was the leading cause of death followed by cancer, diabetes mellitus and unintentional injuries. Cancer was the leading cause of death for both American Indian and Asian population.

**Figure 15: Mean Age of Death for Males and Females**  
Lancaster County, NE  
1983-2003



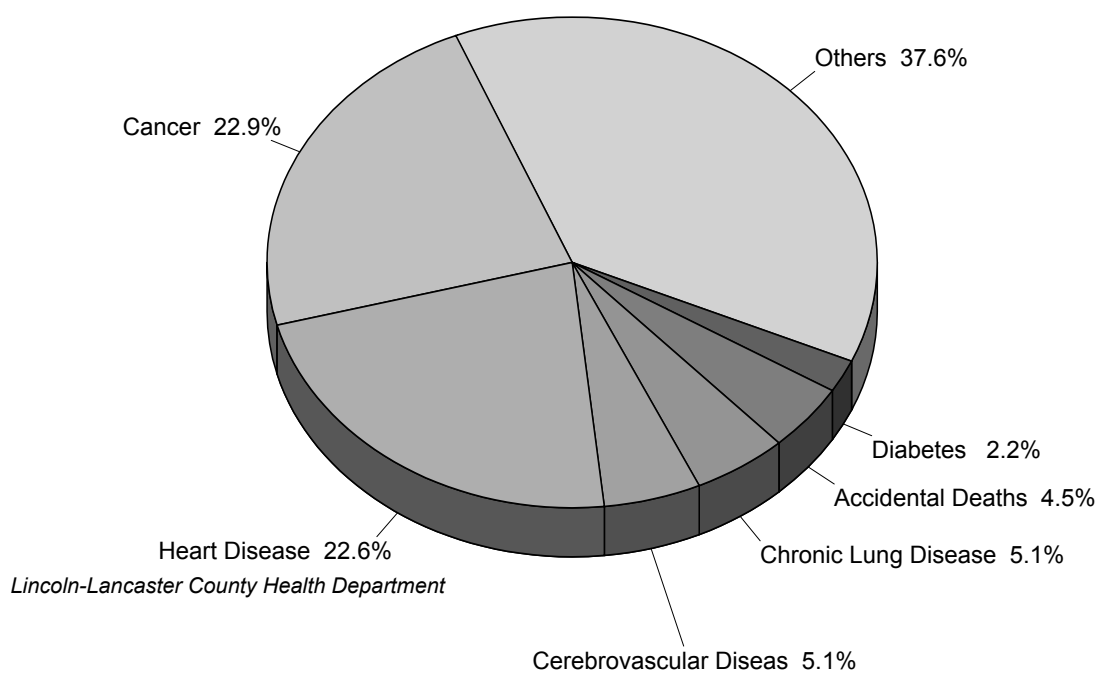
Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

**TABLE 16.**  
**Deaths by Age and Sex**  
**Lancaster County, 2003**

Age	Total Deaths	Percent	Male	Percent of Male	Female	Percent of Female
<1	23	1.3	11	1.4	12	1.3
1-4	2	0.1	1	0.1	1	0.1
5-9	0	0	0	0	0	0
10-14	3	0.2	2	0.3	1	0.1
15-19	1	0.1	1	0.1	0	0
20-24	19	1.1	16	2	3	0.3
25-29	11	0.6	7	0.9	4	0.4
30-39	39	2.3	24	3	15	1.6
40-49	83	4.8	47	5.9	36	3.9
50-59	119	6.9	72	9.1	47	5.1
60-69	181	10.5	105	13.2	76	8.2
70-79	383	22.3	186	23.4	197	21.3
80-89	540	31.4	241	30.3	299	32.4
90-99	292	17	80	10.1	212	23
>100	22	1.3	2	0.3	20	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1718</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>923</b>	<b>100</b>

**Figure 16: Leading Causes of Death**

Lancaster County, NE  
2003



**TABLE 17.**  
**Leading Causes of Death**  
**and Crude Rate per 100,000 Population**  
**Lancaster County, 2003**

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>Number of Total Deaths</i>	<i>Percent of Total Deaths</i>	<i>Crude Death Rate*</i>	<i>Age Adjusted Death Rate*</i>
<i>Cancer</i>	393	22.9	150.5	181.2
<i>Heart Disease</i>	389	22.6	149	177.8
<i>Cerebrovascular Disease</i>	87	5.1	33.3	39.8
<i>Chronic Lung Disease</i>	87	5.1	33.3	40.4
<i>Accidental Deaths</i>	78	4.5	29.9	32.2
<i>Alzheimer's disease</i>	57	3.3	21.8	25.8
<i>Pneumonia</i>	57	3.3	21.8	25.3
<i>Diabetes Mellitus</i>	37	2.2	14.2	16.8
<i>Essential Hypertension and Hypertensive Renal Disease</i>	35	2	13.4	15.8
<i>Suicide</i>	28	1.6	10.7	10.9
<i>Parkinson's Disease</i>	28	1.6	10.7	12.6
<i>Nephritis and Nephrosis</i>	21	1.2	8	9.6
<i>Septicemia</i>	20	1.2	7.7	8.6
<i>Atherosclerosis</i>	16	0.9	6.1	7
<i>Birth Defects</i>	16	0.9	6.1	6.4
<i>Pneumonitis due to Solids and Liquids</i>	11	0.6	4.2	4.9
<i>Chronic Liver Disease and Cirrhosis</i>	10	0.6	3.8	4.1
<i>Aortic Aneurysm</i>	10	0.6	3.8	4.5
<i>Emphysema</i>	7	0.4	2.7	3.2
<i>Asthma</i>	4	0.2	1.5	1.6
<i>Assault (Homicide)</i>	4	0.2	1.5	1.4
<i>Cholelithiasis and other Disorders of the Gallbladder</i>	3	0.2	1.1	1.3
<i>Viral Hepatitis</i>	3	0.2	1.1	1.3
<i>Hernia</i>	3	0.2	1.1	1.3
<i>Influenza</i>	3	0.2	1.1	1.3
<i>Anemia</i>	2	0.1	0.8	0.9
<i>Nutritional Deficiencies</i>	2	0.1	0.8	0.8
<b>HIV</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>
<i>Peptic Ulcer</i>	1	0.1	0.4	0.4
<i>All other cause</i>	304	17.7	116.4	133
<b>Total</b>	<b>1718</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>6.6**</b>	<b>7.6</b>

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\*Rate Per 100,000 population

\*\*Rate Per 1,000 population

**TABLE 18.**  
**Comparison of the Six Leading Causes of Death**  
**Lancaster County vs. the State of Nebraska, 2003**

Lancaster County		Nebraska	
Cause of Death	Percent	Cause	Percent
Cancer	22.9	Heart Disease	26.9
Heart Disease	22.6	Cancer	21.8
Cerebrovascular Disease	5.1	Cerebrovascular Diseases	7
Chronic Lung Disease	5.1	Chronic Lung Disease	5
Unintentional Injury Deaths	4.5	Unintentional Injury Deaths	4.8
Diabetes Mellitus	2.2	Alzheimer's disease	2.9

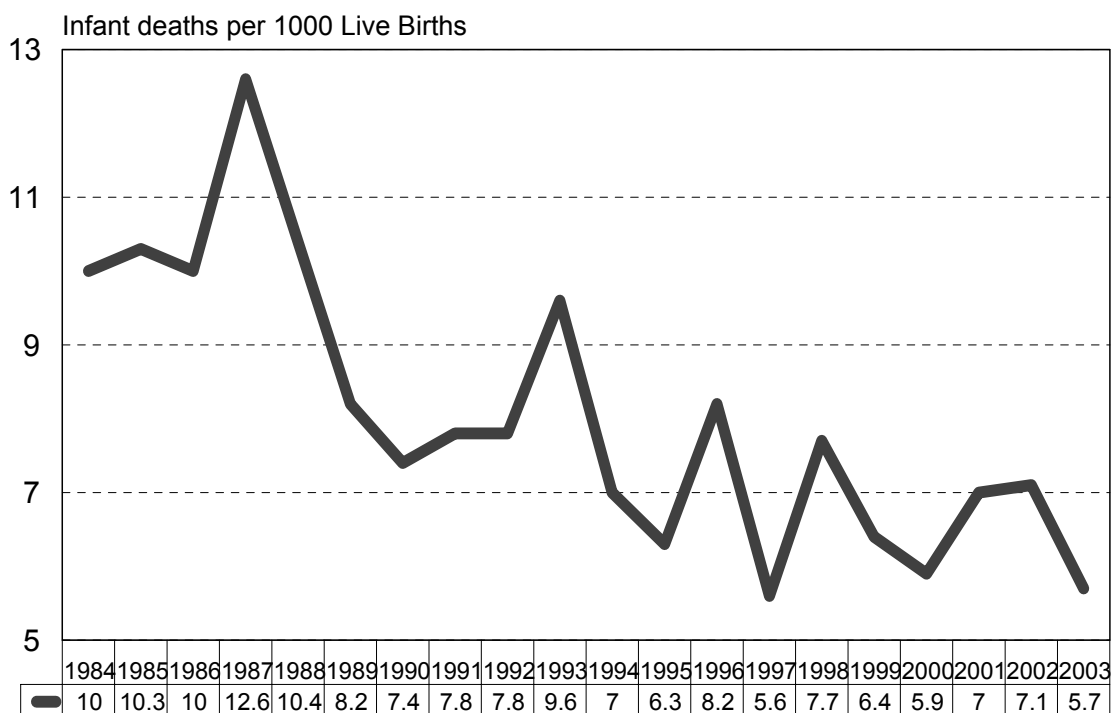
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### Cancer Sites

Cancers of the lung, trachea and bronchus were the leading cause of cancer-related death among males and females (Table 20).

The second leading cause of cancer death was cancer of lymphoid and histiocytic tissue in men and breast cancer in women (Table 20). Cancer death rates are discussed on page 34.

**Figure 17: Infant Mortality Rate**  
**Lancaster County, NE**  
**1984-2003**



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## Suicide

Suicides by method and age category are shown in Table 21. The average age for male suicide was 36 years compared to 43 years for females. Over one sixth of suicide deaths (60.7 per cent) were among individuals 38 years of age or younger. In 2003, the crude rate for suicide was 10.7 per 100,000 population (age adjusted rate 10.9 per 100,000). The crude rate for suicide was 12.8 per 100,000 in 2002. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2010 is to reduce suicide mortality to an age-adjusted rate of 7.5 per 100,000 population.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATE

In 2003, 23 infant deaths occurred in Lancaster County for an infant mortality rate of 5.7 per 1,000 live births (Figure 17). The rate for 2002 was 7.1 per 1,000 live births in which 27 infant deaths occurred. The Lancaster County Health Objective for the Year 2010 is 5.0 infant deaths per 1,000 live births. In 2003, 47.8% of infant deaths were male while the remaining 52.2% were female. A majority (87 per cent) of all infant deaths in 2003 were White (Table 22), a rate of 5.5 per 1,000 White births. Three infant deaths among African American infants in 2002 resulted in an infant mortality rate of 22 per 1,000. Complications during pregnancy were the leading cause of infant mortality (Table 23). Table 23 also shows the other causes of infant mortality.

**TABLE 19.**  
**Six Leading Causes of Death by Gender**  
Lancaster County 2003

Rank	Gender	
	Male	Female
1	Heart Disease (188) 143.4	Cancer (221) 170
2	Cancer (172)* 131.1 **	Heart Disease (201) 154.6
3	Chronic Lung Disease (45) 34.3	Cerebrovascular Diseases (55) 42.3
4	Unintentional Injury Deaths (40) 30.5	Chronic Lung Disease (42) 32.3
5	Cerebrovascular Diseases (32) 24.4	Alzheimer Disease (41) 31.5

\* Number of Deaths    \*\* Sex Specific Rate per 100,000 Population

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**TABLE 20.**  
**Cancer Deaths by Type**  
**Lancaster County, 2003**

Type of Cancer	ICD 10	Male	Female	Total	Percentage
Lung, Trachea, Bronchus	C33-C34	57	48	105	26.7
Colon/ Rectum	C18-C21	12	25	37	9.4
Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma	C82-C85	8	12	20	5.1
Leukemia	C90.1, C91-C95	10	7	17	4.3
Other Lymphatic & Hematopoietic Tissues	C81, C88, C90.0, C90.2, C96	7	4	11	2.8
Breast	C50	0	29	29	7.4
Prostate	C61	13	0	13	3.3
Pancreas	C25	10	16	26	6.6
Ovary/other Uterine Adnexa	C56-C57	0	15	15	3.8
Brain	C71	5	5	10	2.5
Esophagus	C15	2	0	2	0.5
Stomach	C16	7	7	14	3.6
Bladder	C67	2	4	6	1.5
Liver	C22	6	2	8	2
Cervix Uteri	C53	0	2	2	0.5
Skin	C43-C44	4	2	6	1.5
All other causes	...	29	43	72	18.3
<b>Total</b>	...	<b>172</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>100</b>

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**TABLE 21.**  
**Suicides by Type by Age Group**  
**Lancaster County, 2003.**

Types of Suicide	0-14	15-29	30-44	45-59	60 & Over	Total
Firearms and Explosives	0	2	5	2	1	10
Hanging and Suffocation	0	4	3	0	1	8
Poisoning by Drug	0	0	5	1	0	6
Poisoning by Other Gases and Vapors	0	2	0	0	0	2
Other and Unspecified Means	0	1	1	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>28</b>

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## FETAL DEATHS

Twenty four fetal deaths were reported in 2003, representing a fetal death ratio of 5.9 per 1,000 live births (Figure 18). This is an decrease from the 26 fetal deaths reported in 2002 that represented a fetal death ratio of 6.8 per 1,000 live births.

## CRUDE AND AGE-ADJUSTED RATES FOR THE THREE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH

### Heart Disease

In 2003, 389 (22.6 per cent of deaths) Lancaster County residents died of heart disease. This results in a crude death rate of 149 per 100,000 population. The average crude death rate for heart disease from 1999 through 2003 was 160.5 per 100,000 population. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services reported an average crude death rate for heart disease of 245.9 per 100,000 population for the State of Nebraska for the same time period.

The 2003 Nebraska Vital Statistics Report lists Nebraska's age-adjusted death rate for heart disease at 200.8 per 100,000 population for 2003, and 214.2 per 100,000 for 1993 through 2003. Using the same age-adjusted method, Lancaster County's age-adjusted death rates for heart disease were lower: 177.8 per 100,000 population for 2003 and 184.1 per 100,000 population for 1999-2003.

## Life Expectancy

Using a three year rolling average death rate (1998 to 2000), life expectancy at birth (average number of years that an infant would live) in Lancaster County was 79.1 years (Table 28). Women (81.4 years) had a higher life expectancy than men (76.7 years). The overall life expectancy was 79.1 years for whites, 77.3 years for blacks, 64 years for American Indians and 85.2 years for Asians (Figure 31, 32, 33, 34).

**TABLE 22.**  
Infant Deaths by Race and Sex  
Lancaster County, 2003.

Race	Male	Female	Total
White	9	10	19
Black	2	2	4
American Indian	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	0
Not reported	0	0	0
Total	11	12	23

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**TABLE 23.**  
Infant Deaths by Cause and Sex  
Lancaster County, 2003

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Congenital Anomalies	3	4	7
Complications During Pregnancy	2	2	4
Sudden Infant Death Syndrome	0	1	1
Other	6	5	11
Total	11	12	23

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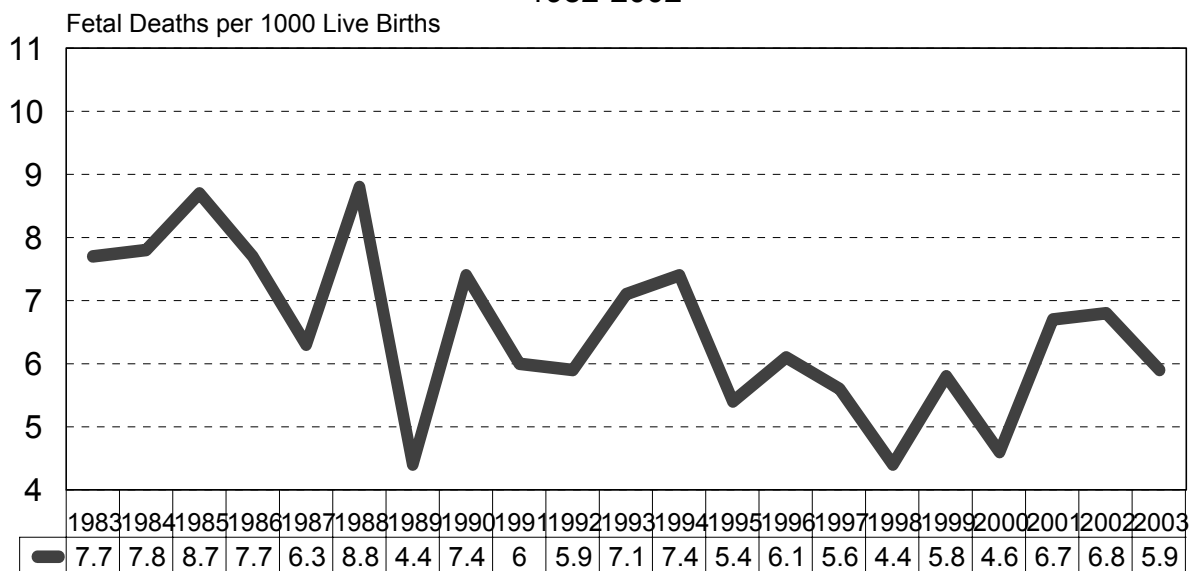
## Cancer

In 2003, 393 Lancaster County residents (22.9 % of total deaths) died of cancer. These 393 deaths translate into a crude death rate of 150.5 per 100,000 population. This compares to an average crude death rate of 163.1 per 100,000 population for 1999 through 2003, which is lower than the average crude death rate due to cancer of 198.2 per 100,000 estimated population for the State of Nebraska for the same period. The Nebraska Vital Statistics Report lists Nebraska's age-adjusted death rate for cancer as 181.4 per 100,000 population for 2003, and 184.8 per 100,000 for 1999 through 2003. It cites a similar age-adjusted rate for Lancaster County: 181.2 per 100,000 for 2003, whereas the average Lancaster County rate was 189.4 per 100,000 over the period 1999-2003.

## Cerebrovascular Disease (Stroke)

In 2003, 87 (5.1 % of total deaths) Lancaster County residents died of cerebrovascular disease. This results in a crude death rate due to cerebrovascular disease of 33.3 per 100,000 estimated population. This compares to an average crude death rate of 44.2 per 100,000 estimated population for 1999 through 2003. The average crude death rate due to cerebrovascular disease of 65.3 per 100,000 estimated population for the State of Nebraska is much higher than the Lancaster County rate. The 2003 Nebraska Vital Statistics Report states that for the State of Nebraska the age-adjusted death rate for cerebrovascular disease was 54.8 per 100,000 population for 2003 and 56.2 per 100,000 for 1999 through 2003.

**Figure 18: Fetal Death Rate**  
Lancaster County, NE  
1982-2002



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*\*Note: To compare death rates from different populations (Lancaster County and the State of Nebraska), age-adjusted rates are used.*

## DEATHS DUE TO UNINTENTIONAL INJURY

In 2003, 78 deaths (4.5 % of total deaths) were due to unintentional injury in Lancaster County. The average ages for male and female deaths were 48.6 and 64 years, respectively. Males represented 51.3 percent of all deaths, compared to 48.7 percent for females.

Under the unintentional injury category, motor vehicle traffic accidents (44.8%) were the leading cause of death in 2003, followed by falls (21.7%).

## DISPOSITION AND PLACE OF DEATH

The most frequent disposition of a body was burial (66.6 %), followed by cremation (30.8 %) (Table 25). The most frequent place of death was a nursing home, (37.7 %), followed by a hospital or medical center-inpatient (29 %) (Table 26).

**TABLE 24.**  
Unintentional Injury Deaths by Principal Cause  
Lancaster County, 2003.

Principal Cause	Frequency
Transport/Motor Vehicle Traffic Accidents	35
Falls	17
Submersion, Suffocation, or Foreign Bodies	13
Poisoning by Drugs	6
Other Unintentional Injury	7
Total	78

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**TABLE 25.**  
Disposition of Body  
Lancaster County, 2003

Disposition	Frequency	Percent
Burial	1145	66.6
Cremation	530	30.8
Removal	16	0.9
Donation	25	1.5
Unknown	2	0.1
Total	1718	100

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**TABLE 26.**  
Place of Death  
Lancaster County 2003.

Place of Death	Frequency	Percent
Nursing Home	647	37.7
Hospital or Medical Center Inpatient	498	29
Residence	354	20.6
Hospital or Medical Center Outpatient/ER	101	5.9
Other Facilities	114	6.6
Dead on Arrival at Hospital or Medical Center	4	0.2
Total	1718	100

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**TABLE 26**  
Five Leading Causes of Death by Race  
Lancaster County, 2003

Rank	Race			
	White	Black	American Indian	Asian
1	Cancer 382* (160.2)**	Heart Disease 9 (115.7)	Cancer 3 (111.6)	Cancer 3 (33.3)
2	Heart Disease 379 (158.9)	Cancer 6 (77.1)	...	Viral Hepatitis 2 (22.2)
3	Cerebrovascular Disease 87 (36.5)	Diabetes Mellitus 2 (25.7)	...	...
4	Chronic Lung Disease 85 (35.5)	Unintentional Injury 2 (25.7)	...	...
5	Unintentional Injury 73 (30.6)	...	...	...

\* Number of Deaths    \*\* Race Specific Rate per 100,000 Population  
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**TABLE 28**  
Life Table For Lancaster Population

Age groups	Average Remaining Lifetime
<1	79.1
1to4	78.7
5to9	74.7
10to14	69.8
15to19	64.9
20to24	60
25to29	55.1
30to34	50.2
35to39	45.4
40to44	40.7
45to49	36.1
50to54	31.5
55to59	27
60to64	22.6
65to69	18.8
70to74	15.3
75to79	12
80to84	9.2
85+	6.8

**TABLE 29**  
Life Table For Lancaster Male Population

Age groups	Average Remaining Lifetime
<1	76.7
1to4	76.2
5to9	72.3
10to14	67.4
15to19	62.5
20to24	57.7
25to29	52.8
30to34	48
35to39	43.3
40to44	38.6
45to49	34
50to54	29.5
55to59	25.1
60to64	20.8
65to69	17
70to74	13.8
75to79	10.7
80to84	8.1
85+	6.2

**TABLE 30**  
**Life Table For Lancaster Female Population**

Age groups	Average Remaining Lifetime
<1	81.4
1to4	80.9
5to9	76.9
10to14	72
15to19	67
20to24	62.1
25to29	57.1
30to34	52.2
35to39	47.4
40to44	42.6
45to49	37.8
50to54	33.2
55to59	28.6
60to64	24.2
65to69	20.2
70to74	16.3
75to79	12.9
80to84	9.7
85+	7.1

**TABLE 31**  
**Life Table For Lancaster White Population**

Age groups	Average Remaining Lifetime
<1	79.1
1to4	78.5
5to9	74.6
10to14	69.7
15to19	64.8
20to24	59.9
25to29	55
30to34	50.1
35to39	45.3
40to44	40.6
45to49	35.9
50to54	31.4
55to59	26.9
60to64	22.5
65to69	18.7
70to74	15.2
75to79	11.9
80to84	9.1
85+	6.8

**TABLE 32**  
**Life Table For Lancaster Black Population**

Age groups	Average Remaining Lifetime
<1	77.3
1to4	78.4
5to9	74.5
10to14	69.5
15to19	64.7
20to24	59.9
25to29	54.9
30to34	50.1
35to39	45.3
40to44	40.6
45to49	36
50to54	31.4
55to59	27.6
60to64	23.1
65to69	19.8
70to74	16.3
75to79	13.8
80to84	10.6
85+	8

**TABLE 33**  
**Life Table For Lancaster American Indian Population**

Age groups	Average Remaining Lifetime
<1	64
1to4	65.5
5to9	61.6
10to14	56.6
15to19	51.6
20to24	47.7
25to29	42.7
30to34	38.1
35to39	33.4
40to44	29.7
45to49	26.4
50to54	22.6
55to59	18.8
60to64	15.8
65to69	14
70to74	10
75to79	6.2
80to84	4.8
85+	3

**TABLE 34**  
**Life Table For Lancaster Asian Population**

Age groups	Average Remaining Lifetime
<1	85.2
1to4	84.8
5to9	80.8
10to14	75.8
15to19	70.8
20to24	65.8
25to29	60.9
30to34	56.2
35to39	51.6
40to44	46.9
45to49	41.9
50to54	36.9
55to59	31.9
60to64	27.3
65to69	22.5
70to74	18.6
75to79	15.5
80to84	11.1
85+	9

**TABLE 35. SUMMARY OF RESIDENT DEATH STATISTICS FROM 1984 TO 2003, LANCASTER COUNTY, NE, 2003**

	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>NUMBER OF DEATHS</b>																				
Lancaster County	1365	1432	1418	1399	1487	1508	1500	1494	1494	1512	1617	1537	1675	1563	1582	1682	1653	1681	1742	1718
Lincoln	1243	1331	1302	1274	1387	1394	1371	1370	1339	1410	1483	1409	1558	1438	1468	1520	1528	1561	1622	1591
Balance of County	122	101	116	125	100	114	129	124	155	102	134	128	117	125	114	162	125	120	120	127
<b>RACE</b>																				
White	98.20%	97.40%	97.30%	97.50%	97.90%	97.90%	97.90%	98.20%	97.60%	97.40%	97.80%	97.70%	96.20%	96.20%	97.70%	96.70%	97.2%	96.1%	97.4%	97%
Black	1.40%	1.70%	1.60%	1.20%	1.30%	1.50%	1.70%	1.30%	1.60%	1.80%	1.50%	1.40%	2.40%	2.20%	1.30%	1.40%	1.5%	2.2%	1.5%	2%
Other	0.40%	0.80%	0.80%	1.30%	0.80%	1.00%	0.40%	0.50%	0.80%	0.90%	0.70%	0.90%	1.40%	1.50%	1.00%	1.80%	1.2%	1.7%	1%	1%
<b>SEX</b>																				
Male	48.80%	50.00%	49.50%	48.90%	50.40%	50.10%	47.80%	45.50%	49.60%	48.30%	47.80%	47.50%	48.40%	46.40%	47.60%	46.20%	47.1%	45.3%	47.1%	46.3%
Female	51.20%	50.00%	50.50%	51.10%	49.60%	49.90%	52.20%	54.50%	50.40%	51.70%	52.20%	52.50%	51.60%	53.60%	52.40%	53.80%	52.9%	54.7%	52.9%	53.7%
<b>AGE</b>																				
Under 1	2.30%	2.20%	2.10%	2.70%	2.10%	1.70%	1.50%	1.70%	1.60%	2.10%	1.40%	1.30%	1.60%	1.20%	1.60%	1.00%	1.33%	1.5%	1.9%	1.3%
1-14	0.70%	0.60%	0.80%	1.30%	0.40%	0.50%	1.10%	0.80%	0.90%	0.50%	0.90%	0.30%	0.70%	0.40%	0.80%	1.30%	0.54%	0.8%	1.2%	0.3%
15-29	2.40%	2.80%	3.10%	2.40%	2.20%	3.20%	2.50%	1.20%	2.80%	2.40%	2.00%	2.10%	2.10%	1.80%	1.50%	2.00%	1.69%	2.1%	2%	1.8%
30-44	2.80%	2.90%	3.70%	2.90%	3.90%	3.10%	4.60%	4.50%	5.20%	4.80%	6.10%	4.60%	4.40%	5.50%	4.40%	4.80%	4.29%	4.9%	4.1%	4.1%
45-59	9.60%	8.30%	9.30%	8.40%	9.10%	8.40%	8.40%	7.90%	7.90%	9.50%	8.80%	7.30%	9.60%	9.70%	10.30%	8.10%	9.01%	10.6%	10.7%	10%
60 & Over	82.10%	83.00%	81.00%	82.30%	82.30%	83.00%	81.90%	83.90%	81.60%	80.80%	80.80%	84.40%	81.60%	81.40%	81.40%	82.80%	83.12%	80.1%	80.1%	82.5%
<b>AVERAGE AGE AT DEATH</b>																				
Male	67.4	68.3	67.2	67.9	68	69	67.6	69	68.2	67.8	67.9	69.5	68.3	69.2	68.8	68.8	69.7	68	69.3	70.5
Female	76.3	75.2	75	75.4	76	75.1	76.3	77.2	75.1	76.4	76.1	77.9	77.6	77.1	76.4	76.6	77.8	77	75.6	77.9
Total	71.9	71.7	71.2	71.8	72	72	72.1	73.5	71.7	72.2	72.1	73.9	73.1	73.4	72.8	73.3	73.9	73.1	72.6	74.4
<b>DEATH RATE</b>																				
Deaths per 1000 Population	6.7	7.1	7	6.7	7	7	7	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.3	6.7	7.2	6.7	6.7	7.07	6.6	6.5	6.8	6.6
<b>INFANT DEATHS</b>	32	32	30	38	31	26	23	25	24	31	22	20	27	18	26	23	22	26	27	23
INFANT MORTALITY RATE (Deaths per 1000 Live Births)	10	10.3	10	12.6	10.4	8.2	7.4	7.8	7.8	9.6	7	6.3	8.2	5.6	7.7	6.4	5.9	7	7.1	5.7
<b>NEONATAL DEATHS</b>	19	23	22	22	16	16	13	13	10	19	16	17	17	13	21	16	11	20	18	13
NEONATAL DEATH RATE	5.9	7.4	7.4	6	5.4	5	7.4	4.1	3.3	5.9	5.1	5.4	5.2	4	6.2	4.4	2.9	5.4	4.7	3.2
<b>FETAL DEATHS</b>	25	27	23	19	26	14	23	19	18	23	23	17	20	18	15	21	16	25	26	24
FETAL DEATH RATIO	7.8	8.7	7.7	6.3	8.8	4.4	7.4	6	5.9	7.1	7.4	5.4	6.1	5.6	4.4	5.8	4.3	6.7	6.8	5.9

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# **MARRIAGE & DIVORCE STATISTICS**

## MARRIAGE RATE

There were 1,947 marriages in Lancaster County in 2003. This translates into a rate of 7.5 per 1,000 population. The Nebraska rate was 7 per 1,000 in 2003. The marriage rates for Nebraska and Lancaster County have remained relatively stable for the past five years (Figure 19).

The most common month of marriage was August followed by June (Table 37).

## AGE AND RACE

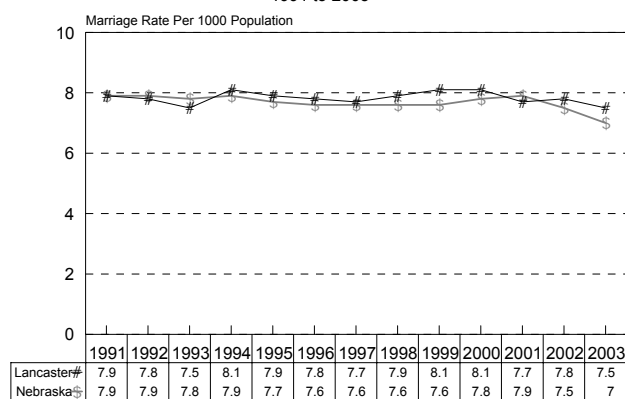
In 2003, 1,786 (91.7%) grooms and 1,815 (93.2%) brides were White. The remaining 156 grooms and 124 brides were of other races. Five grooms and 8 brides did not report any race (Table 38).

**Table 36.**  
Marriages by Month  
Lancaster County, 2003

Month	Frequency	Percent
January	89	4.6
February	110	5.6
March	109	5.6
April	118	6.1
May	227	11.7
June	232	11.9
July	200	10.3
August	249	12.8
September	187	9.6
October	170	8.7
November	129	6.6
December	127	6.5
Total	1947	100

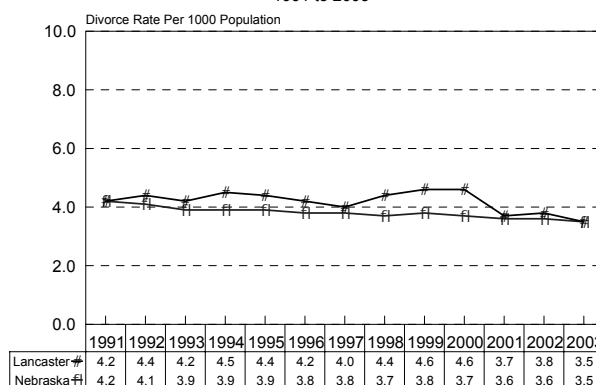
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**Figure 19: Marriage Rate**  
Lancaster County and Nebraska  
1991 to 2003



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**Figure 20: Divorce Rate**  
Lancaster County and Nebraska  
1991 to 2003



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In 2003, the mean age for Lancaster County grooms was 31.7 years. The mean age for brides was 29.6 years.

The mean marriage age of White males and females was 31.6 and 29.6 years, respectively. The mean age for Black males and females was 35 and 30 years, respectively. The mean marriage age for American Indian males and females was 34 and 31, respectively. The mean marriage age was 33 for Asian males and 32 for Asian females.

## **EDUCATION**

Grooms and brides had a mean education of 14 years or two years of education beyond high school. The most frequent educational level was equivalent to a high school education (12 years) for both males and females.

## **DIVORCE RATE**

The 2003 marriage/divorce ratio in Lancaster County was 2.1/1 (Table 39), indicating that there were 2.1 times as many marriages as divorces.

There were 917 divorces in Lancaster County in 2003. This represents a rate of 3.4 per 1,000 population (Figure 20). The 2003 divorce rate for Nebraska was 3.5 per 1,000 population.

Among males divorced in 2003, 67.2 percent were divorced for the first time,

while among females, 64.3 percent divorced for the first time.

## **AGE AND RACE**

The mean age of divorced males was 39.5 years and the average age of divorced females was 37.4 years. The median age of divorced males was 39.0 years, while the median age of divorced females was 37.0 years. The average age of first time divorced males and females was 39.5 and 37.4 years, respectively.

Of the divorces where race was reported in 2003, 86.4 percent of the divorces involved White males and 88.7 percent of divorces involved White females. The marriage to divorce ratios ranged from 2 for Black males to 3.7 for Asian males (Table 38).

## **SETTLEMENT**

In 2003, divorce settlements ranged from no settlement to alimony, child support, property, or a combination of settlements. Table 41 lists the types and frequencies of divorce settlements. Divorces most commonly involved property settlement only (43.5%) or property settlement and child support (28.2%).

## CHILDREN OF DIVORCE & CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

Of the 917 divorces in 2003, 446 (48.6%) occurred in households with children under the age of 18.

Of the 446 divorce settlements involving children during 2003, the divorced woman was awarded exclusive custody of all or some children in 316 (34.5%) of the cases. Divorced men were awarded exclusive custody of some or all children in 56 (6.1%) of these divorces.

In 65 (7.1%) divorces, joint custody was awarded for some or all of the children. In 3 (0.3%) divorces, some or all children were awarded to a party other than the divorced man or woman.

**Table 37.**  
Marriage by Sex and Race  
Lancaster County, 2003

Race	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
White	1786	91.7	1815	93.2
Black	70	3.6	37	1.9
Am.Indian	8	0.4	10	0.5
Asian	77	4	77	4
Other/Unknown	6	0.4	8	0.4
Total	1947	100	1947	100

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**Table 38.**  
Marriages/ Divorce Ratio  
Race of Male  
Lancaster County, 2003

Race	Number of Marriages/ Divorce	Ratio
White	1786/792	2.2/1
Black	70/43	1.6/1
Am Indian	8/10	0.8/1/1
Asian	77/25	3.08/1
Unknow/Other	6/47	0.12/1
Total	1947/917	2.1/1

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**Table 39.**  
Number or Times Married at the Time of Divorce.  
Males and Females  
Lancaster County, 2003

Times Married	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
1	616	67.2	590	64.3
2	186	20.6	186	20.3
3	40	4.4	67	7.3
4	13	1.4	15	1.6
5	S	S	S	S
6 or more	S	S	S	S
Not Classifiable	53	5.8	54	5.9
Total	917	100	917	100

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*S=Suppressed for Confidentiality*

**Table 40.**  
Types of Divorce Settlements  
Lancaster County, 2003

Settlement	Frequency	Percentage
None	114	12.4
Alimony	4	0.4
Child Support	67	7.3
Property Settlement	399	43.5
Alimony and Child Support	1	0.1
Alimony and Property Settlement	36	3.9
Child Support and Property Settlement	259	28.2
Alimony, Child Support and Property Settlement	37	4
All Other	0	0
Unknown and Not Classifiable	0	0
Total	917	100

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## DEFINITIONS

### BIRTHS

**APGAR SCORE** - A system of scoring (10 is the best and 0 is the worst) the physical condition of an infant one minute and five minutes after birth. The conditions tested include the heart rate, respiration, muscle tone, response to stimuli, and color.

**BIRTH ORDER** - The number of live born children, including the current birth.

**BIRTH RATE** - The number of live births per 1,000 population.

**FERTILITY RATE** - The number of births per 1,000 women, age 15 to 44 years.

**LENGTH OF PREGNANCY** - The duration of gestation, in completed weeks, as calculated from the first day of the last normal menses to the date of birth.

**LIVE BIRTH** - The complete expulsion or extraction of a product of conception from its mother, irrespective of the period of gestation, which, after such separation, breathes or shows any other evidence of life such as beating of the heart, pulsation of the umbilical cord, or definite movement of voluntary muscles, whether or not the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta is attached and is reportable.

**LOW-WEIGHT BIRTH** - An infant born alive weighing 5 ½ pounds or less.

**NON-MARITAL BIRTH RATE** - The number of out-of-wedlock births per 1,000 live births.

### DEATHS

**AGE-ADJUSTED DEATH RATE** - A weighted averaging of a crude death rate according to a standard age distribution. An age-adjusted death rate represents what the crude death rate would be if the population for which the rate is adjusted and the standard population had the same age distribution. This procedure allows for the comparison of death rates among populations having different age distributions. The death rates in this report have been adjusted according to the age distribution of the U.S. population in 2000.

**CRUDE DEATH RATE** - The number of deaths from all causes per 1,000 population.

**FETAL DEATH** - Death prior to the complete expulsion or extraction of a product of conception from its mother, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy. Until the pregnancy has reached 20 weeks duration, it is not required that such a death be reported.

**FETAL DEATH RATE** - The number of fetal deaths per 1,000 live births.

**INFANT DEATH** - Death of a person under one year of age.

**MATERNAL DEATH** - Death attributable to delivery or the complications of pregnancy, childbirth or the puerperium.

**MATERNAL DEATH RATE** - The number of maternal deaths per 100,000 live births.

**NEONATAL DEATH** - Death of a person under 28 days of age.

**OCCURRENCE** - The location in which an event takes place irrespective of the usual residence of persons involved.

